



Bob Ficano - A Champion For:

▪ Jobs

- Wayne County led the State of Michigan in attracting 43% of new investment and 38% of all new jobs created in the entire State since 2009.
- Since fiscal year 2012, Wayne County attracted more than \$1.3 billion in new investments and in fiscal year 2013 surpassed \$6.3 million.
- Wayne County's EDGE has offered economic incentives and partnered with the state and local governments to attract much of this new investment, like the upgrades and expansions of the Wayne Ford Assembly Plant.

▪ Cobo Hall

- Ficano was the early champion for the creation of a regional Authority and increased funding when the North American International Auto Show was in jeopardy of leaving Detroit. He spearheaded the effort to pass legislation in Lansing in 2009 which has led to the expansion of Cobo Hall, resulting in hundreds of union construction jobs and saving thousands of jobs in hotels, restaurants and entertainment.

▪ Aerotropolis/VantagePort

- Capitalizing on the central location of the world class Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport amid 60,000 acres of undeveloped land, he had the vision of promoting the "Airport City" concept to spur investment, particularly in logistics. He again led the effort in Lansing to secure passage of a new law that provides economic incentives to businesses locating in the seven partner communities in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. General Electric's "Center of Excellence" in Van Buren Township is an example of new investment in the Vantage Port.

▪ Fiscal Responsibility

- Led the shared sacrifice by taking a 10% wage cut along with other county employees.
- Contrary to published reports, Ficano does not have a county defined benefit pension.
- Cut work force over 1,500
- Cut at-will employees by 35%
- Significantly improved the fiscal health of the County's Retirement System by substantially eliminating the 13th check to retirees.
- Eliminated operating expenses by 30%
- Privatized Wayne County golf courses
- Partnered with the University of Michigan to bring improved service and efficiencies to the Medical Examiner's Office.
- Promoting a creative and essential Deficit Elimination Plan through partnerships with the state and county commission.

▪ The Future

- As a tested and experienced leader, he has made the tough and often unpopular decisions to save the fiscal stability of the county after the recession of 2008 & the loss of \$350 million in property tax revenue since 2009.
- He is a tireless advocate both at home and abroad to bring investment and jobs to Wayne County, having led trade missions to China seven times, and to Europe and the Middle East numerous times to bring back foreign investment, with more coming.
- He is committed and energized to finish the Jail Project, implement the necessary Deficit Elimination Plan and continue other initiatives that is making Wayne County the "Comeback County" in the state.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

The Facts Not Often Reported

JAIL

- Upon learning the Project Managers and contractors were running the project over budget, Bob Ficano had the construction stopped and ordered a review.
- He directed the filing of a lawsuit by the county due to inappropriate actions by the parties involved; specifically that the guaranteed cost in the contract was not honored.
- In 2010 when the site was selected and project begun, there was no Mound Road option, Dan Gilbert's firm had not acquired the Greektown Casino and there was no demand for an entertainment district downtown. The region was suffering the effects of the 2008 recession. City leadership at that time opposed moving the jail out of downtown.
- Currently doing due diligence of options including possibly moving out to and renovating the state's Mound Road facility at a cost close to original projections for the downtown jail.
- The Mound Road option is projected to create approximately 9,500 temporary jobs and 5,500 permanent jobs in northeast Detroit.
- The downtown jail site if resold will be on the tax rolls as privately owned and will generate millions in property tax revenues.

FEDERAL INVESTIGATION

- Absolutely no indication of any criminal wrongdoing by Ficano personally.
- County staff has fully and timely cooperated with federal officials.
- He implemented a new Executive Ethics Policy and other reforms to help prevent future wrongdoing because of a few who forgot that as county employees they are public servants.

SEVERANCES

- Upon learning that the former Director of EDGE received a \$200,000 severance upon leaving the county without proper legal authority, he demanded that it be returned, which it was within a few weeks. No loss of money to the county.
- Eliminated the severance provisions of the Executive Benefit Plan that previously allowed payout of a portion of unused leave and sick time upon separation from county employment.
- Ficano does not personally have a severance agreement or county defined benefit pension.

PROSECUTOR'S BUDGET

- The Prosecutor and Sheriff offices are the two major departments that shared a \$13.5 million increase in their budgets when other departments took cuts up to 20%.
- Prosecutor's case load declined from 18,000 to 10,000 in 2012 but yet demands more money.
- The Prosecutor accepted a \$31 million budget yet spent \$37 million in the last fiscal year while losing a \$7.5 million State grant and refusing to support a public-safety millage.

Paid for by the Robert A. Ficano Committee, PO Box 321123, Detroit MI 48232

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